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### **Town seeks community input on grant application for major transportation-related projects**

The Town of Estes Park is considering applying for a grant through the Federal Lands Access Program. If the Town were to apply for and receive the grant, it could fund major transit and highway improvements, enhancing the local economy and overall quality of life. On Thursday, March 21, grant and potential projects information will be presented at a community open house and Town Board study session in the Town Board Room of Town Hall, 170 MacGregor Ave. The open house starts with a presentation at 3:30 p.m., immediately followed by time to ask questions and give feedback on project options until 5 p.m. At 5:30 p.m. the Town Board will begin a study session to discuss the potential projects and grant opportunity. The Board would then take official action on whether or not the Town will apply for the grant at its March 26 meeting, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Town Board Room.

As Town Administrator Frank Lancaster noted, "We're excited about the possibilities related to this grant, and as we continue to improve transportation in Estes Park, we want to keep you informed and gather your feedback." He continued, "The goal is to find creative solutions to the 'good problem' we have of accommodating the millions of visitors we see each summer, while benefitting the residents and businesses of Estes Park."

If funded, these transportation improvements could include one or more of the following:

- Rerouting some of the traffic on Elkhorn Avenue and Moraine Avenue to increase mobility, support the economy by providing better access to businesses, reduce traffic congestion frustrations and improve air quality and the overall safety of our residents and guests.
- A downtown parking structure to increase ease of accessibility to businesses and support our existing infrastructure.
- A multi-use trail along Moraine Avenue from downtown to Beaver Meadows that would allow more residents and guests to move safely and easily through the area without having to rely on a motor vehicle.

Owners and tenants of properties in the vicinity of potential projects have been invited to a meeting on March 19. Lancaster noted, "Since this meeting is intended just for them, we can take time to discuss how the projects relate to them, and potential benefits to businesses through increased public accessibility."

These potential grant-funded projects have been recommended by several transportation studies to improve traffic flow and access to Rocky Mountain National Park. For more information on the public meetings, please contact the Town Clerk's office at 970-577-4777, or visit [www.estes.org/boardsandmeetings](http://www.estes.org/boardsandmeetings). To receive Town news and/or meeting agendas in your email inbox, please email [townadmin@estes.org](mailto:townadmin@estes.org).

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